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Vessels entering Colon from ports where officers of the Service are stationed required to have bills of health viséed by them.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,
OFFICE OF MEDICAL OFFICER IN COMMAND,
Colon, Republic of Panama, June 7, 1904.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service, Washington.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit for your information a decree, issued on May 11 by the Panama Government, requiring vessels coming to the port of Colon to secure bills of health viséed by Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service officers.

I respectfully state that so far as I am able to ascertain the provisions of this decree are being enforced by the local authorities.

Respectfully,

J. C. PERRY, *Surgeon.*

[Translation.]

No. 9.

Decree of May 11, 1904, by which is set forth a measure in relation to the Public Health Service.

The President of the Republic, in accordance with powers invested in him, decrees:

ARTICLE 1. The regulations of the decree of the national executive No. 8, of April 30 last, have been extended to the port of Colon.

In consequence, in order that steamers proceeding from foreign ports may have permission to enter the port of Colon, it is required that their respective bills of health shall have been viséed by the doctor of the Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service of the United States if the steamers proceed from ports where a doctor of the above-named Service is attached to the United States consulate.

ART. 2. The agents at Colon of the respective steamship companies are obliged strictly to comply with the said regulations, or with the regulations which may be made in the future by the doctor of the above-mentioned Service, in respect to vessels which are dispatched to the port of Colon.

Communicate and publish.

Given at Panama May 11, 1904.

The secretary of public works,

The sub-secretary of public works,

For the sub-secretary of government,

M. AMADOR GUERRA.

MANUEL QUINTERO, V.

ADOLPHO ALEMAN.

H. GONZALES GUILL.

Reports from Panama—Inspection of vessel—Mortality.

Assistant Surgeon Pierce reports, May 31, as follows:

Transactions for the week ended May 30, 1904: On May 24 the Pacific mail steamer *San Jose* cleared for San Francisco with officers and crew, 57; cabin passengers, 12, and steerage passengers, 11; total, 80; all well.

On May 26 the U. S. S. *Boston* sailed for San Francisco. A bill of health was issued without inspection, as the medical officer stated all were well.

Mortality at Panama for the week ended May 22, 1904.—Tuberculosis, 2; liver disease, 4; bronchitis, 1; dentition, 1; fevers, 4; still-

born, 2; a fall, 1; wounds, 1; dropsy, 1; dysentery, 2; remittent fever, 1; malaria, 2; cancer, 1; pneumonia, 3; debility, 1; total from all causes, 27.

The above were copied from the official records.

CIRCULAR.

Assistant Surgeon Claude C. Pierce, of this Service, notifies the different steamship companies interested, at Panama, that he has assumed the duties of the doctor of the port at Panama; and that the quarantine regulations of the United States will be observed at that port.

PANAMA, PANAMA, *May 26, 1904.*

SIR: You are hereby advised for your information and action that by Decree No. 12, of May 24, 1904, His Excellency the President of the Republic of Panama abolished the position of doctor at the port and assigned those functions pertaining to the maritime quarantine to the United States Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service.

I, having been designated by the Surgeon-General of the above-named Service as the officer charged with these duties, inform you that the quarantine regulations of the United States will be observed at this port, and that one of the requisites to entry of vessels will be the bills of health and supplemental bills of health, issued by American consuls, acting for Panama, and the certificates of inspection or disinfection that will be issued by officers of the United States Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service in those ports where such officers are stationed.

You will notify the masters of the vessels of your company and others concerned.

Respectfully,

CLAUDE C. PIERCE,
*Assistant Surgeon, U. S. Public Health and
Marine-Hospital Service,
Quarantine Officer at Panama.*

Copies sent to the agents of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, Pacific Steam Navigation Company, and Compania Sud America de Vapores.

Reports from Bocos del Toro, fruit port.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Osterhout reports as follows: Week ended May 26, 1904. Present officially estimated population not obtainable; number of deaths, 2. Prevailing disease, malarial. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.

Bills of health were issued to the following-named vessels:

Date.	Vessel.	Destination.	Number of crew.	Number of passengers from this port.	Number of passengers in transit.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.
May 20	Harald	Mobile, Ala.	20	0	0	0
22	Preston	New Orleans, La..	30	2	1	4
25	Belvernon	Mobile, Ala.	20	0	0	0
26	Fort Gaines	do	22	2	0	7